GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1498
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
SCHEME FOR SAFEGUARDING ENVIRONMENT
Bhagora Shri Mahavir

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes implemented in the country for controlling the quantity of carbon emission in the air;

(b) whether Government has formulated any new scheme/rules in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the time by which Government is likely to implement the new schemes/rules;

(e) whether Government is proposes to seek help from Japan for safe guarding the environment;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) whether there is any proposal of constituting special advisory committee for improvement in the environment; and

(h) if so, the time by which the committee is likely to be constituted ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (e) The Central Pollution Control Board in association with State Pollution Control Boards(SPCBs)/Pollution Control Committees(PCCs) and other Institutions, is monitoring ambient air quality at 339 locations covering 126 cities/towns in 25 States and 4 Union Territories of the country under the National Air Quality Monitoring Programme. The parameters monitored are Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM), Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM), Sulphur dioxide, Nitrogen dioxide and in some selected cities, other parameters like Carbon dioxide, Ozone, Ammonia are also monitored.

2. The Central Pollution Control Board have also taken up installation of continuous air quality monitoring stations in collaboration with the SPCBs/PCCs in the country. Under this programme, 32 continuous air quality monitoring stations have already been set up. The country has also taken initiative of according Host Country Approvals to a large number of projects in various fields including Energy Efficiency, Fuel Switching, Industrial Process, Municipal Solid Waste, Renewables and Forestry under the Clean Development Mechanism for reduction of the Green House Gases. Also, these has been collaboration of the Government with Japan on a number of projects in different environment and forestry sectors. Under Air Pollution Abatement, there has been, however, no collaboration so far with Japan.

(g) & (h) Further, a number of Committees have been constituted by the Government to deal with different aspects of environment, no advisory committee has been constituted specifically in the area of air pollution abatement. Measures for abatement of air pollution taken by the Government and improvement of environment include-

Notification of Emission standards for industries and for Vehicles under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.
Enforcement of auto exhaust emission standards for new vehicles at manufacturing stage.
Improved fuel quality.
Use of beneficiated coal in the thermal power stations.
Initiation of Source Apportionment Studies;
Phasing out of more than 15 year old commercial transport vehicles;
Identification of 24 critically polluted areas and formulation of action plans for restoration of environmental quality in these areas.